



Atty. Dkt. No. 063993-0108

ATH 372

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Yasushi IIDA, et al.

Title: PRESSURE VESSEL AND
PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE
SAME

Appl. No.: 09/711,138

Filing Date: 11/14/2000

Examiner: Stephen J. Castellano

Art Unit: 3727

To Response
S. Zimmerman
(NE)

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

REPLY

Commissioner for Patents
BOX AF
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Office Action dated November 19, 2002, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

REMARKS

Claims 1-13, 24, 25, 29-31, 34-36, and 40-57 were pending in the application. Claims 3, 4, 10-13, 24, 25, 29-31, 36 and 41-57 were withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner. No claims have been amended or canceled by way of this reply. Thus, claims 1, 2, 5-9, 34, 35, and 40 are submitted for reconsideration at this time.

Prior Art Rejections

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, and 40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,819,978 ("Hlebovy" hereafter). Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, and 40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hlebovy. Claims 7-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hlebovy in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,829,418 ("Tamura" hereafter). Claims 34 and 35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hlebovy in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,025,943 ("Forsman" hereafter). The Office Action acknowledges that the December 4, 1995 filing date of PCT/JP95/02474, to which the present



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CERTIFICATION OF TRANSLATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

I, Toru Nakanishi of 2-9, Shoyo 2-chome, Otsu-shi, Shiga 520-2135 JAPAN, certify that I am familiar with both the Japanese and the English language, that I have reviewed the English translation filed on November 14, 2000 of Application No. PCT/JP95/02472, and that the English translation is a true, faithful and exact translation of PCT/JP95/02472.

I further declare that all statements made in this declaration of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful, false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful, false statements may jeopardize the validity of legal decisions of any nature based on them.

Respectfully submitted,

Date Feb. 18, 2003

By Toru Nakanishi